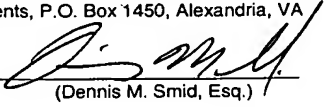


I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: December 21, 2006 Signature: 

(Dennis M. Smid, Esq.)

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-1060  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Late Patent Application of:  
Inoue et al.

Application No.: 10/782,434

Group Art Unit: 3744

Filed: February 18, 2004

Examiner: G. L. Bankhead

For: **FAN CONTROL APPARATUS AND FAN  
CONTROL METHOD**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**


Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. The references were cited in an Office Action issued in connection with applicants' corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action and each non-US patent or patent application reference are enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: December 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

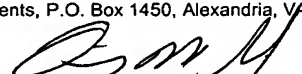
By   
Dennis M. Smid, Esq.  
Registration No.: 34,930  
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Westfield, New Jersey 07090  
(908) 654-5000  
Attorney for Applicants



I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: December 21, 2006

Signature:

  
(Dennis M. Smid, Esq.)

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-1060  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
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For: FAN CONTROL APPARATUS AND FAN  
CONTROL METHOD

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 (C)**

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the enclosed form be considered pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). Please charge deposit account No. 12-1095 in the amount of \$180.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). In the event that any additional fee is due in connection with the present request, the same should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: December 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By



Dennis M. Smid, Esq.

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PTO/SB/08A/B (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

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<b>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/782,434-Conf. #6713
				Filing Date	February 18, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Kenichi Inoue
				Art Unit	3744
				Examiner Name	G. L. Bankhead
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SONYJP 3.0-1060

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	BA	JP-2002-345293-A	11-29-2002	Toa Corp		✓
	BB	JP-2003-029850-A	01-31-2003	Funai Electric Co Ltd		✓
	BC	JP-2002-252315-A	09-06-2002	Ricoh Co Ltd		✓
	BD	JP-2001-227494-A	08-24-2001	Fujitsu General Ltd		✓
	BE	JP-2001-056724-A	02-27-2001	NEC Niigata Ltd		✓
	BF	JP-10-143257-A	05-29-1998	Sansha Electric Mfg Co Ltd, Thermal Dynamics Corp		✓
	BG	JP-09-171420-A	06-03-1997	Tec Corp		✓
	BH	JP-04-372526-A	12-25-1992	Fuji Electric Co Ltd		**
	BI	JP-02-251072-A	10-08-1990	Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd		**

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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